

Message Text

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21

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00

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FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7252

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTREAL 175

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO

SUBJ: ELECTION OF ICAO SECRETARY GENERAL

1. MISSION RECEIVED A VISIT IN EARLY AFTERNOON FROM UK PERM REP JOHN RUSSELL. YESTERDAY WE CALLED ON HIM TO ANNOUNCE THE DILLON CANDIDACY AND HE VOLUNTEERED THE INFORMATION THAT HE HAD HEARD NO MORE ON THE POSSIBLE CANDIDACY OF JACK VIVIAN FOR THE SYG POST. HE SAID IT WAS HIS ASSUMPTION THE VIVIAN CANDIDACY WAS NO LONGER AN ACTIVE IDEA. HE BEGAN TODAY'S DISCUSSION SAYING, "LIFE IS FULL OF SURPRISES." HE THEN SAID HE RECEIVED A PHONE CALL TODAY FROM LONDON INDICATING THAT THE BRITISH WILL "PROBABLY" BE NOMINATING VIVIAN FOR SYG. HE ADDED THAT HE BELIEVED THERE HAD BEEN DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN JIM GREEN AND TOM CALDWELL IN LONDON ON THIS SUBJECT.

2. MISSION IS CONCERNED BY POSSIBILITY THAT BRITISH WILL FILE VIVIAN CANDIDACY. HE WOULD BE LIKELY TO DRAW SUPPORT FROM MANY OF THOSE NATIONS TO WHICH WE NOW LOOK FOR SUPPORT. WE CAN ONLY VIEW THE POSSIBILITY OF HIS CANDIDACY AS DIVISIVE AND DETRIMENTAL TO OURS.

3. MRS. DILLON AND IO OFFICER WALKER HAVE JUST COMPLETED CALLS ON ALL REPRESENTATIVES CURRENTLY IN MONTREAL - 23 IN ALL. THE RESPONSE TO THEIR PRESENTATION OF DILLON CANDIDACY
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WAS MOST ENCOURAGING. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS (COLOMBIA, SPAIN,

MOROCCO, KENYA, COSTA RICA, AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN) PROMISED TO ASK THEIR GOVERNMENTS THAT THEY RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTE FOR MRS. DILLON. MANY OF THE OTHERS WERE PLEASED WITH THE CANDIDACY AND GAVE THE IMPRESSION THEY WILL SUPPORT IT WITH THEIR GOVERNMENTS.

4. MEANWHILE, WE HOPE SOME ACTION CAN BE TAKEN TO DISCOURAGE UK FROM FILING. TIME IS SHORT TO NOMINATIONS DEADLINE BUT SUCH FILING COULD HAVE EFFECT OF ENCOURAGING A PLETHORA OF LAST MINUTE CANDIDATES. IN THIS REGARD, MEXICO HAS BEEN TEETERING ON THE NOMINATION BRINK BUT NOW APPEARS TO HAVE SWUNG TO THE SIDE OF NON-INVOLVEMENT. THE URGE MIGHT BE REKINDLED BY A BRITISH MOVE.

5. SUGGEST THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER DISCUSSING THIS DEVELOPMENT WITH BRITISH, EITHER IN WASHINGTON OR IN LONDON.
HARPER

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